

Recalling Pioneer Days

NOT ONE BY ONE, but ten by ten, the relics, records, and landmarks of pioneer days in the Rocky Mountain Southwest are being obliterated and forgotten. It is lamentable that there is no group of citizens public spirited enough to take up this matter and see to it that those still remaining are conserved, and that those which have been destroyed but are yet remembered shall be memorialized in some suitable way while positive knowledge can be had.

The road to Hueco Tanks is full of pioneer interest. The Old Butterfield Trail in places is 100 to 200 feet wide, where the road has been successively shifted as it wore into deep ruts. This old trail ought to be marked at the crossings of the present road. In the Hueco Tanks region itself the rocks used to be covered with quaint Indian paintings in red and yellow and black and white, and with the inscriptions of the pioneers and soldiers of the '40's and '50's. Nearly every one of these has now disappeared. Most of them were legible or even perfectly preserved as late as six or seven years ago. But today there are very few to be found.

Fires have been built in the picture and inscription caves, not only smoking up the roof and walls but heating the rock so that it has flaked off—pictures, inscriptions, and all. In numerous instances, perhaps hundreds, the boys and girls and men of this irrevocable age have scribbled, carved, painted, and daubed their names and recent dates, right over the top of the old Indian paintings, perhaps a century or more old, and the immigrant and soldier inscriptions, 60 to 70 years old. Much of this unfortunate work of destruction has been done within the last few years, and is still going on.

All about El Paso, within and without the city, there are numberless points of historical interest that ought to be suitably marked. It is not at all necessary for these to be costly bronze or marble. Just very small, very plain signboards would do; and especially an occasional warning plaque not to destroy or deface or change anything so as to impair its historical or scenic interest, as far as care and thoughtfulness may make it possible.

Every point of interest in the history of El Paso and vicinity before 1890 should be located, its significance accurately fixed, and the place, time, and event truthfully and finally recorded. The number of such points, all told, would run far into the hundreds. A guide book supplemented by such information would be intensely interesting to tourists and home people, and many days could be spent here at the crossing of the old trails, in following up all the points of interest and piecing together the rich and picturesque history of this region.

For natural beauty and wonder, no region in the United States can surpass some places around El Paso; this is not the slightest exaggeration, and each man will come to the same conclusion after seeing all the great show places of this country. Exact comparison is not possible, of course; one cannot compare the ocean with the Grand Canyon with Niagara, yet each has its unique elements of grandeur. So with some of our El Paso country scenery, and views nearby, comparison may not be made directly with the natural wonders of other regions, and yet we can confidently say that ours are not surpassed by any in the possession of unique elements of keen human interest, elements of such overwhelming grandeur and awful beauty as to stir the heart and impress the memory not in any less degree than the heart is stirred and the memory impressed by the greatest natural wonders in America.

We neglect, and have always neglected, to care for and develop this, one of our very greatest assets.

On Slippery Ground

MEXICO'S credit is already seriously impaired, by reason of the public knowledge that the government cash reserves have been almost wiped out. The currency system inaugurated by Limantour, Creel, and the monetary commission has worked very well so far, but it seems now that the parity is no longer being maintained. By a plan of export duty on gold and import duty on old coined pesos, it had been the expectation that the silver and gold currency would be kept without difficulty at parity, that is, two pesos silver for one gold dollar.

A gold reserve was established, which was to be used from time to time as necessary to maintain the parity, by buying pesos at a fixed rate regardless of temporary and localized market conditions. It is to be understood, of course, that this is in no sense "bimetallism" or "double standard of currency" under the old. The gold definition of the term, for in no sense is the silver peso in the same position as the gold dollar is the standard, and the peso in Mexico is almost in the same position as the paper currency of the United States, in being worth par only so long as the government stands ready to redeem it in gold. It is human nature and fundamental economic law that nobody wants to hold paper until the supply dwindles or the paper is allowed to drop below par by the failure, or anticipated or expected failure, of government to redeem the paper at par.

So with the Mexican peso—allowing for a small legitimate charge for handling, they passed current, as did also the paper currency of the chartered banks, at very near par, or half the accounting value of the gold units, just so long as the government was known to have its gold reserves intact and to stand ready to buy pesos at the fixed rate. As soon as the government failed to protect the exchange, everybody handling money, or the paper or metallic representation of money, became suspicious, and something like a small sized panic developed when first the paper currency, and then the silver pesos, began to drop and were no longer subject to redemption in gold at their face value of one-half.

This new phase of the Mexican situation is, in some ways, the most serious that has yet presented itself. It is really an effect, rather than a cause, of disturbed conditions, but it is a symptom of critical conditions that the world, until now, has hoped did not exist. It means that the resources of the government of Huerta are near the end, that armies cannot be recruited, equipped, or paid, that transportation lines cannot be kept open, that the purchasing power of all wages and salaries is dropping fast, that the market price of all staple commodities will tend to rise by fits and jumps, that the earnings of all corporations whose charges to the public are regulated by government charter, franchise, law, or regulation will seriously decrease, and that money for public, private, and corporation use must be borrowed, if at all, only on almost ruinous terms.

Some northern states of Mexico are already lost to the Huerta government. It is no longer a question of holding the country together, but rather of winning back the states that have defied the central power. Huerta cannot spare any troops for northern or central Mexico. He has his hands full here, and his army is depleted, and no matter how hard he may try to the established government, it cannot spread over the territory that must be protected or reconquered.

The people are in no mood to abide by the result of any "election" held under such conditions. The disturbance will not quiet down with the "election" of Huerta or Diaz. And if Carranza should go in by "election" or by conquest, it would only reverse the order of antagonists, and the ins would be out and the outs would be in, and the same old row would continue, with the term "rebels" changed about to apply to the group now nominally in power.

Mexico's troubles now are chiefly economic. Production of wealth has been largely curtailed both as to raw and manufactured materials. Armies of men out of work are turned into consumers instead of producers and add to the discontent. Not being able to pay for her imports in her own products, and not being self supporting, Mexico must pay in gold for what she buys, or go into debt. This line of analysis might be continued indefinitely, but it all only goes to show that the general situation in the neighboring republic is growing worse instead of better, and will not be cleared up for a long time to come.

14 Years Ago Today

From The Herald This Date 1899.

O. L. Rice left over the Santa Fe this morning.

W. D. Drake went to Tucson, Ariz., this afternoon.

R. W. Loomis returned from Casas Grandes last evening.

W. W. Bridges returned from San Antonio this morning.

W. F. Winn left over the Santa Fe today for Washington, D. C.

Chas. Dowd, customs inspector, went up to Las Cruces this morning.

Joe Dwyer, mounted inspector, is in Dallas, Texas, on a leave of 10 days.

The Women's Elks club has entertained last night by Mrs. W. H. Decker.

Brakeman Green, of the G. H. D., has taken a leave of absence and will leave for San Antonio in a few days.

Arthur Eiland, foreman of the G. H. bridge and building crew, has completed his labors on this end of the line.

Frank Morris returned from Alamo and last evening where he went to look after his homestead in the mountains.

W. R. Martin, superintendent of the Ror Grand division of the G. H. & S. A., arrived here with the special party today.

Miss Annie Coffin and Miss Winona Lemley went down to Clint, Texas, this afternoon to spend the holidays at the ranch.

Messrs. Cox and Kayser, the well known cattlemen, brought over 12 cars of cattle yesterday afternoon from the Casas Grandes country.

In celebration of San Jacinto day, three grades of the High school went over the river to the picnic grounds opposite Hart's mill for a day's outing.

Misses Lillie Mayle and Lillie Smith, Mrs. Sherry Falconer, and K. B. Hol-

ABE MARTIN



Th' less a feller amounts t' th' better he stacks up in the pe-rade. This is a funny old world for sometimes we find a feller that's actually buntin' his relatives.

POPE VIEWS CROWD OF CELEBRATORS IN ROME

"Cities Grow With Age While Men Decline" Remarks Pontiff—City Founded 2463 Years Ago.

Rome, Italy, April 21.—The pope this morning was in much better spirit and felt stronger. He still suffered from a severe cold, but the day was sunny, and he was able to rise and sit in an arm chair in front of the closed window. For the first time since his last relapse, the pope was able to look into Piazza di St. Pietro which was alive with people. When he saw that a large number of flags were flying, he asked the reason and was informed that today was the anniversary of the foundation of Rome, 2463 years ago. "Cities grow with age while men decline," remarked the pope.

TO EXHUME BODIES OF MEXICAN REBELS

Blasquez, Ariz., April 21.—Arrangements have been made by local health officials to exhume the bodies of Mexican rebels who were killed in the battle of Agua Prieta. The bodies are to be exhumed from the battlefield and reburied in a cemetery. The health officials are concerned about the spread of disease from the bodies.

BELGIUM STRIKERS NOW NUMBER 500,000

Brussels, Belgium, April 21.—The general strike for equal suffrage in Belgium has now reached its second week. The strikers are now numbering 500,000. The strike is still in progress, and the government is trying to break it.

WILSON'S ACTION ON LAND BILL SOFTENS IRE OF JAPANESE

Tokyo, Japan, April 21.—The announcement that President Wilson has agreed to support the land bill has softened the ire of the Japanese. The Japanese had been angry with the United States for not supporting the land bill.

SOME WEATHER OF THE RATHER UNUSUAL KIND HITS EL PASO

Weather conditions in El Paso are unusual. There has been a lot of rain, and the temperature is high. The weather is very different from what it has been in the past.

THE HOODOO NUMBER

By Walt Mason.

This year, whose number is '13', is surely acting rather mean. Disasters tread each other's heels until the sad outlooker feels that Jonah, from his ancient berth, has certainly returned to earth. There must be something true, 'thirteen' in that old-fashioned superstition: "thirteen" is a bad number.

THE TITANIC—APRIL 15, 1912

By A. J. Robertson, El Paso.

Since time was born and the world began, And the waters covered the sea, So splendidly grand as the Titanic, No ship has ever been so big and free.

Women Advance Libraries

Numerous Schools Are Conducted to Train Women for Work.

By Frederic J. Haskin.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 21.—The great library movement is responsible for opening up a new profession to which educated women are called in larger numbers than men. It is distinctively an educational work which in some respects may be compared to the teaching of the young. The differences between the two callings are more pronounced than the similarities.

Women Advance Libraries

Until the time of the Centennial exposition in Philadelphia, the library movement in this country had been rather fragmentary and desultory. After the convention of the American Library Association in Philadelphia, the movement became more complete and more organized. Different states began to form branch associations. Advanced systems of cataloging were arranged and schools were opened to train women for work in libraries. A larger percentage of women than men attended these schools.

Work of Commissions

Women have been doing important work in the establishment of the state library commissions of the country and in securing appropriations for libraries. The work of these commissions is to secure the necessary funds for the libraries and to see that the libraries are properly maintained.

Library School at Atlanta

In Atlanta, Miss Johnson, who has been working in the library school, is now in charge of the school. The school is for the training of women for work in libraries. The school is very popular and has a large number of students.

Barstow is Cleaned; Big New Reservoir

Barstow, Tex., April 21.—Clean-up work in Barstow is clean as any town in western Texas. A big new reservoir is being built in the town. The reservoir will be a great help to the town in times of drought.

Arizona Senator Asks For Information About Mexico

Washington, D. C., April 21.—Senator Smith of Arizona has introduced a resolution in the senate today asking President Wilson for information about the situation in Mexico. The senator is concerned about the stability of the Mexican government.

Concrete For Protection Of The Rio Grande Banks

With the exception of Japan, El Paso is the only city in the world to employ the concrete mat for river protection work. The concrete mat was used in the protection work on the Rio Grande. The mat is very effective in preventing erosion of the river banks.

Lake Michigan Steamer Sinks; Crew Rescued

Milwaukee, Wis., April 21.—The steamer "Buddie" sank in Lake Michigan Sunday night, near the shore of Milwaukee. The crew was rescued. The steamer was carrying a large number of passengers and cargo.

NABORS MAKES RECORD JUMP

High School Wins Annual Track and Field Meet From Y. M. C. A. Athletes.

In the annual dual track and field meet between the High school and Y. M. C. A. held at Washington park today, Nabors, of the Y. broke his record in the federation for the high jump by four and a half inches. His old record of 5-2 1/2 ft. he made at Mesilla Park last year. Today he cleared the bar at 5-7.

Sheldon Wins 100 Yard Dash

The result follows: 100 yard dash—First, Sheldon, Y. M. C. A.; second, Brann, Y. M. C. A.; third, Walker, High school; fourth, Kuttler, Y. M. C. A.; time 10-4-5. 220 yard dash—First, Romero, Y. M. C. A.; second, Kuttler, Y. M. C. A.; third, Chelmer, Y. M. C. A.; fourth, Foster, High school; time 2-17-4.

High Jump—First, Nabors, Y. M. C. A.

High jump—First, Nabors, Y. M. C. A.; second, Kuttler, Y. M. C. A.; third, Chelmer, Y. M. C. A.; fourth, Foster, High school; time 2-17-4. 150 yard dash—First, Romero, Y. M. C. A.; second, Kuttler, Y. M. C. A.; third, Chelmer, Y. M. C. A.; fourth, Foster, High school; time 2-17-4.

Shot Put and Discus Throw

Shot put—First, Jones, Y. M. C. A.; second, Brann, Y. M. C. A.; third, Walker, High school; time 18-5-8. Discus throw—First, Jones, Y. M. C. A.; second, Brann, Y. M. C. A.; third, Walker, High school; time 18-5-8.

Prison Sentence For Baker

San Francisco, Cal., April 21.—Charles P. Baker, defaulting assistant cashier of the First National bank, was sentenced today in the United States district court to serve 10 years in San Quentin prison.

Indicted On Murder Charge

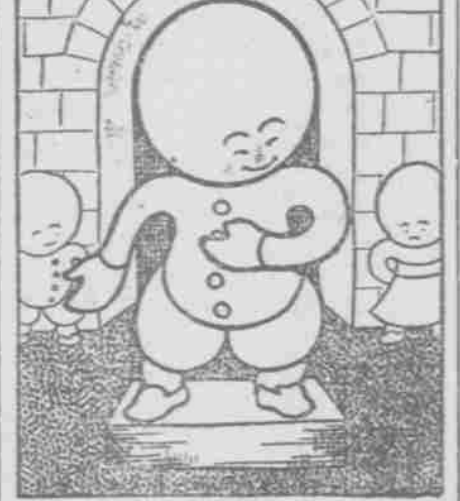
San Francisco, Cal., April 21.—A. C. Chisholm has left for Alpine, Tex., where he formerly lived, and will spend a few weeks there. He is indicted on a murder charge.

Willcox, Ariz.

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GOOPS

By GELETT BURGESS



Benny Tadd

"I'm awful good!" says Benny Tadd, "But all the other boys are bad!" "Oh, they are naughty!" I am nice!" "I haven't got a fault or vice!" Who are his friends? He hasn't any! Don't be a priggish! Coop, like Benny! Don't Be A Good!